

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2000-0109-C - ORDER NO. 2000-0295
MARCH 28, 2000

IN RE: Application of Convergent Communications) ORDER GRANTING
Services, Inc. for Approval of Alternative) ALTERNATIVE
Regulation of its Interexchange Business) REGULATION
Services)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the Application for approval of Alternative Regulation filed by Convergent Communications Services, Inc. ("Convergent" or the "Company"). By its Petition, Convergent requested that the Commission approve alternative regulation of its business services which reflects the alternative (or relaxed) form of regulation established for relaxed regulation in Order Nos. 95-1734 and 96-55 in Docket No. 95-661-C.

Pursuant to the instructions of the Commission's Executive Director, a Notice of Filing regarding Convergent's Application was published in the Commission's subscription service. No protests or Petitions to Intervene were received regarding Convergent's Application.

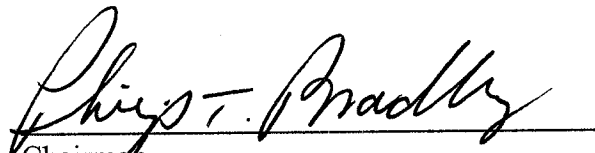
Accordingly, the matter comes before the Commission for disposition. Alternative (or relaxed) regulation has been granted to other interexchange carriers since alternative regulation was first approved for AT&T of the Southern States by Order Nos. 95-1734 and 96-55 in Docket No. 95-661-C. Since the Commission has received no opposition to Convergent's Application, the Commission approves Convergent's Application for Alternative Regulation. Therefore, Convergent's business services shall hereafter be regulated under alternative regulation as described in Order Nos. 95-1734 and 96-55.

This alternative regulation shall be applicable to Convergent's interexchange business services, consumer card services, and operator services in South Carolina.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Convergent's Application requesting for alternative regulation is granted, as described herein.
2. Under alternative regulation, Convergent shall not be required to state maximum rates (caps) for its business service offerings, Consumer Card offerings, and Operator Service Offerings. Such rates shall be presumed valid upon filing, subject to the Commission's right within seven (7) days to institute an investigation of the tariff filing, in which case such filing shall be suspended pending further Order of the Commission. Further, Convergent shall be subject to the same monitoring process as similarly regulated companies.
3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)